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Current Class: [REDACTED]
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1975BUENOS07119

Page: 1

Channel: n/a

Case Number: 200000044

10/29/75

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 07119 291441Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
USIA-06 DHA-02 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SCS-03
DODE-00 SCA-01 ARAE-00 PM-04 /062 W

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P 291411Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3241

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 7119

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PINT, AR
SUBJECT: CONTINUING TERRORISM PROBLEMS

REF: BUENOS AIRES 6675

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s): DECONTROL

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: TERRORISM CONTINUED TO PLAGUE ARGENTINA THIS PAST WEEKEND (OCT. 24-27) AS NEWS MEDIA REPORTED AT LEAST NINE DEAD AND THREE KIDNAPPED. THE RISE IN TERRORIST ACTIVITIES, COMMENCING WITH FORMOSA ATTACK (REFTEL A) BROUGHT HINTS YESTERDAY FROM JUSTICE MINISTER ERNESTO CORVALAN NANCLARES THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE STATE OF SIEGE WILL BE BROADENED IN SCOPE. END SUMMARY.

2. FIVE FEDERAL POLICEMEN WERE KILLED IN A BUENOS AIRES SUB-URB SUNDAY MORNING (OCT. 26). THE FIVE WERE ATTACKED WHILE PASSING BY THE SAN ISIDRO CATHEDRAL IN TWO PATROL CARS. FOUR OTHER SECURITY AND MILITARY PERSONNEL WERE ALSO REPORTED KILLED IN CLASHES WITH SUBVERSIVES IN VARIOUS PARTS OF ARGENTINA DURING PAST FEW DAYS. ASSISTANT FEDERAL POLICE CHIEF HORACIO ALBERTO ROJAS WAS ALSO ATTACKED BY A GUERRILLA FORCE LATE THURSDAY NIGHT (OCT. 25), ACCORDING NEWS ACCOUNTS. NO INJURIES WERE RECORDED AS THE HEAVILY-ARMED TERRORISTS FLED ON ARRIVAL OF SUPERIOR SECURITY FORCES. THIS IS REPORTED TO BE THIRD ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE HIGH-LEVEL POLICE OFFI-

Current Class: [REDACTED]

Page: 1

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UNCLASSIFIED

Page: 2
Channel: n/a

Case Number: 200000044

[REDACTED]
PAGE 02 BUENOS 07119 291441Z

CIAL IN ALMOST A YEAR.

3. TWO EXECUTIVES OF LARGE COMPANIES WERE REPORTED KIDNAPPED OVER THE WEEKEND WHILE A THIRD WAS RELEASED AFTER PAYMENT OF UNDISCLOSED RANSOM. ARTURO BULLRICH, OF A CATTLE AUCTION COMPANY, AND H. FRANZ METZ, MERCEDES-BENZ PRODUCTION ENGINEER, WERE KIDNAPPED IN TWO SEPARATE INCIDENTS OVER THE WEEKEND. THE SCANT INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM PRESS SOURCES INDICATED THE BULLRICH CASE APPEARS TO BE NOT POLITICAL AS ONLY MONEY HAS BEEN DEMANDED. IN METZ' CASE REPORTS CLAIM DEMANDS MADE BY GUERRILLAS INCLUDE REHIRING OF 300 DISCHARGED EMPLOYERS.

4. MRS. REBECCA MADANES DE FRIEDENTHAL, 70, WAS RELEASED THIS WEEKEND AFTER PAYMENT OF UNDISCLOSED RANSOM FOLLOWING KIDNAPPING THURSDAY (OCT. 23). MOTIVATION, POLITICAL OR COMMON CRIMINAL, WAS NOT CLEAR.

5. FOLLOWING CABINET MEETING YESTERDAY (OCT. 27), THE GOA INDICATED TO NEWS MEDIA THAT AN EXTENSION AND BROADENING OF THE PROVISIONS OF STATE-OF-SIEGE IS NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION. NO DETAILS OF THE PLAN WERE REVEALED. THE IDEA IS DOUBTLESS A RESULT OF THE RECENT PROCLAMATIONS TO CARRY OUT FULL SCALE WAR AGAINST SUBVERSION. LA OPINION OCT 28 SPECULATES THAT "BROADENING OF PROVISIONS" MAY INCLUDE IMPOSITION OF SOME DEGREE OFFICIAL CENSORSHIP OF PRESS.
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Current Class: [REDACTED]

Page: 2

UNCLASSIFIED